

CLAIMS

1. A voting tracking and reporting system comprising:
 - an acquisition and processing device, the acquisition and processing device configured to
 - acquire data representing votes, and
 - communicate with a data communication network; and
 - a collection and processing system connected to the data communication network, the collection and processing system configured to
 - receive data from and transmit data to the data communication network,
 - decrypt vote data received from the acquisition and processing device,
 - manipulate the vote data to determine characteristics of the vote data,
 - store the vote data and characteristics, and
 - transmit vote data and characteristics via the data communication network in response to authorized requests.
2. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device is configured to transmit data representing votes to the data communication network responsive to requests received from the data communication network.
3. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device is configured to transmit data representing votes to the data communication network upon detection of a predetermined event.

4. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 3 wherein the predetermined event is acquisition of data representing votes.
5. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device encrypts the vote data.
6. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via cellular telephone communication.
7. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 1 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via wireless data network communication.
8. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 5 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via cellular telephone communication.
9. The voting tracking and reporting system of claim 5 wherein the acquisition and processing device communicates with the data communication network via wireless data network communication.